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1861-08-28 Dr. Daniel McRuer writes to Governor Washburn regarding S.B. Morrison

Daniel McRuer

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Fort Corcoran

Arlington Heights

Dear Sir

Aug. 28 1861

As soon as I received yours of the 26 I made known to the officers of the Regt. your intention of appointing Dr. Morrison as their Surgeon, & I regret to say that the appointment would not be satisfactory to the Regt. nor would it be pleasant for him under existing circumstances.

I learn that Dr. Jones of Bangor would probably give satisfaction and should be accept of a Commission. I hope he will be sent out at once as my Commission is ready for me & the place here may be occupied by another as soon as practicable.

The Regt. is in the best quarters, and when their ranks are filled with good men and improved, I cannot see why it will not be as pleasant a Regt. to be connected with as any on the field - Certainly of attention to Regimental duties and a healthy esprit de Corps it will ~~be~~ by the present officers

As I have not been mustered into the
United States Service, I have to look to
the State of Maine for my pay
and if you will send me blanks
filled up to the time that my suc-
cessor reaches here I will receipt
them, or you may direct Paymaster
Robie to settle my claim -

I think there will be between
thirty or forty to be discharged
& probably as many more will go home
on furlough - I intended to have
gone to W. with 25 duplicates of
discharges to be approved by the Medical
Chief, but no communication is allowed
with W. today, as the hostile army is
close at hand only 3 miles off
Our pickets are more in and we
are in momentary expectation of
a battle -

Most Respectfully

Yrs Truly

Samuel

Confidential

P.S. The "existing circumstances" alluded to is, a strong prejudice of the officers against Dr. Morrison, which would make it impossible for him, however faithful to give satisfaction - I was not aware of any thing of this kind or I should not have advised you to ~~nominate~~ recommend him as Surgeon for the 2^d. Still it is my opinion that Dr. Morrison would be an excellent assistant - I would want no better, and when there was a good Brigade Surgeon he would do very well as a Surgeon - however I think Dr. Morrison has been not accept the appointment of Surgeon for the 2^d. Regt. & I wish you respectfully to advise him

D. M. Rice

Dr. McKuer
Fort Conoran
Aug. 28